



Editorial

Rising Incidences of Attacks on Doctors

Medicine is a noble profession wherein the doctors and paramedics work hard to cure the ailment of a common man. Many a times they need to be on their toes to save the life a person at the cost of their personal life. They are always ready to sacrifice their personal life. For a medical person, profession comes first, the family later. Their contribution to the healthy society is applaudable. Since the time immemorial, the medical profession is considered as a noble profession and the doctor, a God.

But now there is emerging risk to the profession due to rising attacks on medical professionals for no / trivial reason. These attacks not only pose threat to the professionals, but also aversion towards the profession by the young minds who are dreaming to join this noble profession. This fact is supported by the opinions of toppers of recently concluded board examination, who expressed their willingness to join other professions rather than joining this self-sacrificing profession.

The attack on doctors is a global problem. The WHO report of two years (2014 and 2015) on Attacks on Healthcare in emergencies released in 2016 stated that these attacks are observed in more than 19 countries around the world. It further identified that more than half of the attacks were on medical establishments and more than quarter were on medical professionals. But the shocking revelation of this report is that more than 62% of attacks were intentionally plotted against the medical healthcare.

These attacks are mainly due to feeble minds of the relatives who are not ready to accept the facts about the course of the illness in emergency, lack of awareness about the limitations of medical field, ignorance of the public regarding the available laws, non-availability of stringent laws and apathy of the government or the law enforcing agencies to take action against culprits.

Today, the decisive actions are essential to protect healthcare workers and establishments. Emergency response teams must be set up, which should immediately support the establishments when in need. More stringent laws which induce fear in the minds of attackers must be enacted. With these preventive measures, the ethical, empathic clinical practice is equally essential to curb this global problem. It's high time that we must join hands together to protect our profession so that the future generation steps its foot into the medical profession without any fear in the minds.

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